



VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

facing groove or slot 28 to hold a composite structure comprising the glass cover 12, picture and backer board 26 as shown clearly in Figures 5 and 5A. The picture frame 10 preferably has an artistically contoured front surface 10a to provide a pleasing visual appearance. A flat rear surface 10b after being mounted is firmly in contact with the wall 20. The slot 28 is preferably deep enough in the top frame member 7 so that the glass plate 20 picture 14 and backer board 26 can be slid upwardly for insertion or removal.

Refer now to Figures 3 and 4 which diagrammatically illustrate the operation of the invention. The hanger bar 18 has a front surface 18a, a rear surface 18b which is in contact with the wall during use and is held in place by the fasteners 24. Screw or nail holes can be predrilled straight or on an incline. The hanger bar includes <sup>an</sup> ~~and~~ upwardly facing tilted or canted support surface or ramp 18c which is inclined downwardly proceeding toward the wall 20 and extends horizontally as shown in Figures 2 and 5 in alignment with horizontal snap line 22 that can be placed on the wall to assure accurate positioning. On the back of the picture frame 10 is a recess or pocket 30 which is of sufficient size to accommodate the entire hanger bar 18. The hanger 18 is thereby enclosed within the recess 30 forwardly of the rear surface 10b of the picture frame 10. Typically the hanger bar is about ¼ inch in thickness from its front surface 18a to its rear surface 18b. The pocket 30 should have a depth from front to rear of at least over ¼ inch to accommodate the hanger bar 18.

The upper horizontal frame member 7 is constructed so that there is provided a downwardly facing integral skid member 32 at the upper end of the pocket 3. As shown in Figure 3, the downwardly facing skid member 32 has a flat face that is inclined downwardly proceeding toward the rear surface 10b of the frame 10. While the angle of the ramp surface 18c is not critical, it is typically between 30° and 60° and is preferably about 45° to the horizontal.